

REMARKS

In response to the Official Action mailed January 13, 2005, Applicant amends his application and requests reconsideration. In this Amendment, no claims are added or canceled so that claims 1-33 remain pending. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1, 13, 22, and 31 are amended to recite retrieving information descriptive of the graphics element *rendered during execution of the software application*, and storing an association between the executable feature and the graphics element in a map data structure, wherein the map data structure is accessible by an application driver for driving the software application, *and wherein the map data structure further stores information on the graphical element prior to and after a state transition occurs in the software application* (see page 19, lines 7-24; page 23, lines 3-23; and Figure 7 of the patent application).

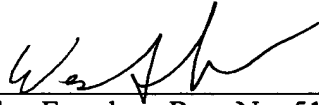
The Official Action rejects claims 1-33 as unpatentable over Parker et al. (US Patent 5,781,720, hereinafter Parker) in view of Tan et al. (US Patent 6,356,902, hereinafter Tan) and further in view of Singh et al. (US Patent 6,415,396, hereinafter Singh). That rejection is respectfully traversed.

The various embodiments of the invention provide a mechanism for mapping out the execution of a target application to be tested, and deterministically navigating the map to execute the actions associated with graphical elements rendered during execution of the target application. The combination of Parker, Tan, and Singh, however, does not teach this feature of the invention. Specifically, the combination does not teach storing in a map data structure information on the graphical element prior to and after a state transition occurs in the software application, as recited by amended claims 1, 13, 22, and 31. This feature of the invention, absent in the prior art, allows a software tester to use the resulting map to refer to a specific state of the target application and its graphical interface throughout execution of the target application (see page 23, lines 3-23; and Figure 7 of the patent application). Such an advantage is valuable in detecting and repairing code defects found during the systematic testing of the graphical interface. Parker does not teach or suggest this feature, nor do Tan and Singh. Applicants additionally note that Tan relates to multimedia objects, not graphics elements, and is thus not pertinent to the prosecution of the present application. (see Abstract of Tan). Thus, the combination of Parker, Tan, and Singh cannot teach or suggest all of the limitations of the pending claims. Accordingly, *prima facie* obviousness has not been established, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

In re Appln. of Arild SKJOLSVOLD
Application No. 09/982,395

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection, as well as prompt allowance of the pending claims, are appropriate and earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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Amendment or ROA - Regular (Revised 6/5/04)